

**Path of Advancement can be found in COMDTINST M 1000.6 (series)
Personnel Manual, Chapter 5.C (Change 34)**

E-2 Change 33 to the Personnel Manual ended the requirement for E-2's to complete the MRN-PO course prior to advancement

E-3 (Graduate of Basic Training, striking or attending "A" school) must successfully complete the MRN PO to advance to **E-4**

E-4 (Rated Petty Officer) must complete MRN SPO to advance to **E-5**

E-5 (Rated Petty Officer) must have completed the MRN SPO to advance to **E-6**

E-6 (Rated Petty Officer) must complete the CPO course to advance to **E-7**

Advancement and Military Requirements (Excerpt from Personnel Manual)

5.C.2 Advancement from E-1 through E-4

5.C.2.a. Methods of Advancement from E-1 through E-4

Personnel may be advanced from E-1 through E-4:

1. By special authority of the Commandant.
2. By their commanding officer (applicable for advancement from E-1 to E-2 and E-2 to E-3 and advancement to pay grade E-4 of Class "A" School graduates).
3. By their district commander (applicable for advancement through pay grade E-3, advancement to pay grade E-4 of Class "A" School graduates and for change in rating in pay grade E-3 and below).
4. Under the special provision of [Article 5.C.33.a.](#) for qualified prior Coast Guard active duty and reserve personnel.
5. By successful completion of a Striker Program for ratings of BM, DC, EM, FS, MK, QM, SK, and YN (applicable for advancement from E-3 to E-4).

☞☞☞☞ [Article 5.E.1.](#)

5.C.3 Servicewide competition

5.C.3.a. E-5 Through E-9 Advancements Through Servicewide Competition

Except as noted in subparagraph e. below, advancement in these pay grades is accomplished through taking a Servicewide Examination (SWE) following the

schedule listed below which will be followed without regard to anticipated vacancies:

E-7 through E-9	May
E-5 and E-6	May and November

1. While it cannot be guaranteed that any one person will be advanced, the SWE ensures a fair and an impartial opportunity for advancement and a guarantee that all enlisted personnel of a particular rating shall have an equal advancement opportunity.

2. A cutoff point is established for each rating and rate based upon vacancies anticipated at the time the eligibility list is compiled. Personnel who are below the cutoff point should plan on participating in subsequent SWEs in order to maintain eligibility.

5.C.7.b. Military Requirements

1. All personnel must complete the Military Requirements Course listed below before advancing to pay grades E-4 through E-7 as follows:

FOR ADVANCEMENT TO REQUIRED MRN COURSE

E-4	MRNPO
E-5	MRNSPO
E-7	CPO

2. For those nonrated personnel attending a Class "A" school, the military requirements for pay grade E-4 will be met through successful completion of the military requirements (MRNPO) test administered by the training command. For those Class "A" school students who successfully complete this test, the following Administrative Remarks, CG-3307, entry will be made in the Personnel Data Record:

[Date]: Passed test on knowledge factors of military requirements required for advancement to E-4.

3. For those Class "A" school students who do not successfully pass this test, the following, Administrative Remarks, CG-3307, Personnel Data Record entry shall be made:

[Date]: Failed to pass test on knowledge factors of military requirements required for advancement to E-4.

4. Class "A" school students who have completed the rating portion of the course of instruction, but have not completed the MRNPO test may not be advanced until the MRNPO requirements are satisfied. To satisfy these requirements once graduated, they must complete the MRNPO course before advancement to E-4. The Institute will provide procedures for administering the MRNPO test and appropriate study materials to Class "A" School training commands.